

# Law Enforcement Investigation

---

## Mission

To create a safe environment for the State of Indiana through the identification and suppression of criminal activity.

## Summary of Activities

The **Indiana State Police Law Enforcement Investigation** program includes criminal investigations, crash investigations, odometer fraud, confidential funds, and training. This program employs approximately 1300 sworn officers and 700 civilians. The Bureau of Criminal Investigation provides a direct approach to investigating crimes through the use of specialized investigative procedures and the use of advanced technology, while making these resources available to local and county law enforcement officials. The State Police works closely with the **Department of Revenue, Department of Insurance, State Board of Accounts, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and the Office of the Secretary of State.**



The Laboratory Division of the State Police provides investigative services to all Indiana law enforcement agencies. Personnel conduct DNA analysis, polygraph examinations, fingerprint comparisons, and ballistics imaging. The State Police also maintains a missing children clearinghouse that serves as a central repository for all information relating to missing children in Indiana, including a newsletter and toll-free number (1-800-831-8953).

The Alcohol and Tobacco Commission (ATC) regulates the manufacture, sale, possession, and use of alcoholic beverages, and enforces laws involving the sale of the tobacco products. The ATC is comprised of a bipartisan, four-person board, which reviews recommendations from local boards in all 92 counties and whose staff assists laypersons in obtaining alcohol permits and tobacco retail certificates. The Indiana State Excise Police serve as the enforcement arm of the ATC with an officer serving on each local board. The officers enforce ATC rules and regulations governing more than 10,000 alcohol permit holders and over 100,000 employee permit holders, including bartenders, waiters, waitresses and sales staff. Excise police are also responsible for the enforcement of tobacco laws, such as those prohibiting the sale of cigarettes to minors, at thousands of tobacco retail establishments. The excise police also provide assistance to the community and sister law enforcement agencies as well as providing educational programs to Indiana school children and employee permit holders.

## External Factors

State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations responds to alleged criminal activity reported by citizens and is often asked to assist in city, county and local law enforcement investigations.

The number of ATC excise investigations increases each year. Officers coordinate many investigative efforts with community leaders and local law enforcement. One such function involves a number of public nuisances cases related to alcohol sales. The legislature delegated the enforcement of tobacco laws to the Indiana State Excise Police approximately two years ago. In 2003 the legislature increased their tobacco responsibility by adding cigarette fair trade to ATC enforcement efforts.

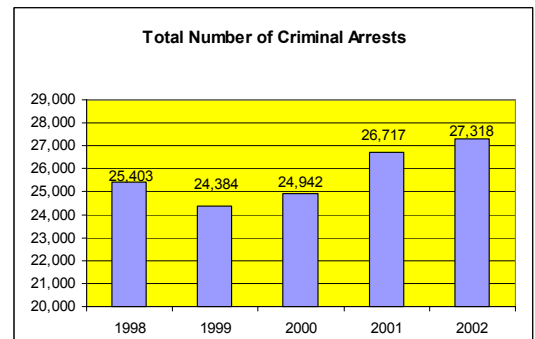
The growth of the gaming industry increases the need for law enforcement investigation in and around riverboat casinos. As the number of visitors to the riverboat casinos increases, it is necessary to assume that violations of criminal law will also continue to rise. Consequently, the presence of comprehensive law enforcement investigation will be a continuing need.

## Evaluation and Accomplishments

In 2002, Indiana State Police detectives were responsible for making 27,318 criminal arrests. Drug related arrests for the same time period totaled 5,413. The Drug Enforcement personnel purchased/seized 5,500 pounds of marijuana, 18 kilos of cocaine, 32 pounds of methamphetamine, and numerous firearms and dosages of other drugs. Approximately \$1 million in cash and assets were also seized. Increased enforcement awareness of methamphetamine led to the eradication of 732 clandestine drug labs by the Clandestine Lab Response Team. The State Police Vehicle Crimes Unit continues to investigate vehicle theft related crimes. In 2002, unit

personnel recovered several pieces of stolen construction equipment having a combined value of several million dollars. The Crimes Against Children Unit continues to utilize technology in pursuing individuals who prey on children. Detectives have received several referrals from Internet providers and computer related industries. These referrals netted numerous warrants and felony arrests.

The Cyber Crime Unit was created to forensically examine computer systems for criminal justice agencies. Detectives responded to calls for assistance and have been successful in recovering deleted and covert files from systems that have been instrumental in charging and convicting defendants. Evidence has ranged from child pornography to counterfeit currency.



The State Police Laboratory Division provides services critical to the successful investigation of criminal offenses for all of Indiana's law enforcement agencies. The Division provides field crime scene services through laboratory field technicians stationed at each State Police district. Analytical personnel reported the analysis of 14,414 cases. Additionally, division employees conducted over 580 polygraph examinations and printed over 180,400 photographs. Latent fingerprint cases totaled 536 for 2002. Forensic scientists testified as expert witnesses on 383 occasions. Field technicians collectively processed over 1,600 crime scenes and spent over 986 hours presenting court testimony. Approximately 80% of analytical services and 50% of field services provided were in support of county and municipal police agency investigations.

## Plans for the Biennium

The Law Enforcement Investigation program will emphasize:

- The emphasis of interagency communication and involvement
- The utilization of new technologies in the expansion of the Cyber Crime and Crimes Against Children Units
- To increase enforcement against those who provide alcoholic beverages to minors
- To increase enforcement against those that serve individuals to a point of intoxication
- To increase education and enforcement in regards to tobacco laws and certification
- To create new laboratory space that will house labs for the Indiana State Police, the State Department of Health, and the Department of Toxicology

